

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-10 (Cancelled)

11.(New) A pneumatic actuator comprising a cylinder, a pair of pistons disposed slidably in a cylinder, a pressure-inspecting chamber enclosed by inside lateral faces of said pair of pistons opposed to each other and inner peripheral face of said cylinder, an output shaft disposed in the pressure-inspecting chamber and provided with a pinion, a piston rod provided with rack teeth to be meshed with said pinion, said piston rod having opposite ends thereof connected to the inside lateral faces of the pair of pistons to transform motion of the pair of pistons into a rotary drive of the output shaft, and a pressure-detecting hole formed in the cylinder for establishing communication between said pressure-inspection chamber and an exterior.

12.(New) A pneumatic actuator according to claim 11, wherein the pressure-inspecting chamber or the pressure-detecting hole is provided therein with a pressure sensor for detecting an inner pressure of said pressure-inspecting chamber.

13.(New) A pneumatic actuator according to claim 11, wherein a center line of the pair of pistons and a pitch line of said rack teeth are maintained in conformity.

14.(New) A pneumatic actuator according to claim 11, which is a combined operation actuator provided with a pressure feeding and releasing chamber enclosed with outside lateral faces of said pair of pistons, the inner peripheral face of the cylinder and end covers disposed one each at opposite ends of said cylinder.

15.(New) A pneumatic actuator according to claim 11, which is a single operation actuator provided with a pressure feeding and releasing chamber enclosed with an outside lateral face of one of said pair of pistons, the inner peripheral face of the cylinder and one of end covers disposed one each at opposite ends of the cylinder, and a spring attached to an outside lateral face of the other of said pair of pistons and contained in a spring case disposed in the other of the end covers.

16.(New) A pneumatic actuator according to claim 15, wherein the spring case is provided on an outer peripheral face thereof with a communicating hole for establishing communication between an interior and an exterior of the spring case.